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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

ITOH Atty. Ref.: 160-407

Serial No. 10/766,873 TC/A.U.: 3739

Filed: January 30, 2004 Examiner:

For: SPECIMEN CENTRIFUGE APPARATUS

May 4, 2005

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of an Official Action (and English translation) mailed April 19, 2005 in a counterpart application in Japan and a copy of the two documents first cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for any fees required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

ITOH Serial No. 1,0/766,873

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Arthur R. Crawford Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:eaw 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201-4714

Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

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Date Considered

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

ITOH Atty. Ref.: 160-407

Serial No. (To be Assigned) Group:

Filed: January 30, 2004 Examiner:

For: SPECIMEN CENTRIFUGE APPARATUS

January 30, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.55 and in conformance with the procedures of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, applicants hereby bring the following reference to the attention of the examiner. This reference is listed on the attached modified PTO Form No. 1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. A copy of the patent, publication or other information listed on the modified PTO form 1449 is enclosed.

Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP § 609] with the next communication.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Bv:

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ARC:vc

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Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

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